



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/817,844	03/26/2001	Rabindranath Dutta	AUS9-2001-0280-US1	9393

40412 7590 12/03/2004

IBM CORPORATION- AUSTIN (JVL)
C/O VAN LEEUWEN & VAN LEEUWEN
PO BOX 81641
AUSTIN, TX 78758-1641

EXAMINER

FIELDS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2137

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/817,844

Applicant(s)

DUTTA, RABINDRANATH

Examiner

Courtney D. Fields

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule.17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06012004, 09282004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are pending.
2. The Information Disclosure Statements respectfully submitted on 01 June 2004 and 28 September 2004 have been considered by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 9-10, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sehr (U.S. Patent No. 6, 085, 976).

Referring to the claims of 1, 9, and 13, Sehr discloses a method, system, and product of unbinding a ticket identifier from security features included on an electronic ticket, comprising: one or more processors in Column 16, lines 20-30, a memory accessible by the processors in Column 5, line 27-28, Column 6, lines 16-38, a network interface for communicating with other information handling systems in Column 7, lines 58-64, Column 8, lines 59-67, Column 9, lines 1-9, one or more nonvolatile storage areas accessible by the processors in Column 5, lines 12-48, and an electronic ticketing tool for unbinding a ticket identifier from security features in Column 5, lines 23-24, Column 13, lines 64-67, Column 14, lines 1-14 the electronic ticket tool including: receiving an

unbind request from a requestor, the unbind request including the ticket identifier corresponding to the electronic ticket, determining whether the unbind request is authorized by the customer, and unbinding the security features from the ticket identifier in response to determining that the unbind request is authorized in Column 15, lines 38-67, Column 17, lines 36-42, Column 29, lines 57-67, Column 30, lines 1-7, 20-43.

As per claims 2 and 14, Sehr discloses the claimed limitation wherein at least one of the security features is selected from the group consisting of a photograph of the customer, a customer signature, a digital signature corresponding to the customer, a fingerprint, and a description of the customer in Column 6, lines 52-61, Column 13, lines 4-38, Column 18, lines 20-36, and Column 29, lines 3-28.

As per claims 3, 10, and 15, Sehr discloses the claimed limitation wherein the determining further comprises: receiving an encrypted data packet that has been encrypted using a private key corresponding to the customer, and deciphering the encrypted data packet using a stored public key corresponding to the customer in Column 30, lines 60-67, Column 31, lines 1-67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-8, 11-12, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sehr in view of Goldstein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,216,227). Sehr

Art Unit: 2137

discloses the invention as outlined above. However, Sehr does not explicitly disclose an error message indicating if a ticket can be transferred nor multiple electronic tickets in which a second requestor and a second ticket identifier are identified.

As per claims 4 and 16, Goldstein et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein the determining whether the electronic ticket can be transferred and unbinding the security features from the ticket identifier in response to determining that the ticket can be transferred and returning an error message to the requestor in response to determining that the ticket cannot be transferred in Column 6, lines 22-63.

As per claims 5, 11, and 17, Goldstein et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein receiving a binding request from a second requestor, the binding request including a second ticket identifier and one or more security features corresponding to the second requestor, determining whether the second ticket identifier is currently bound to stored security features, and binding the second ticket identifier to the second requestor's security features in response to determining that the second ticket identifier is not currently bound to stored security features in Column 4, lines 12-67, Column 5, lines 1-37, Column 8, lines 21-32.

As per claims 6 and 18, Goldstein et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein sending ticket information to the second requestor in response to the binding, the ticket information including a ticket layout in Column 5, lines 8-23.

As per claims 7 and 19, Goldstein et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein receiving a printed ticket from the second requestor, the printed ticket formatted

according to the ticket layout, the printed ticket including the ticket identifier and the second requestor's security features in Figure 2, and Column 5, lines 8-37.

As per claims 8,12, and 20, Goldstein et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein verifying the requestor, the verifying including: receiving a secret identifier from the requestor, and comparing the secret identifier with a stored secret identifier corresponding to the requestor in Column 7, lines 1-25. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sehr's travel system and method by combining Goldstein's validation of electronic tickets for multiple venues. Motivation for such an implementation is shown in Column 2, lines 3-24.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Lewis (U.S. Patent No. 6,779,720) discloses a method and apparatus for generating a ticket including an image of a person.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on 571-272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


cdf

November 21, 2004


Andrew Caldwell